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HOWDEN
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.



Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

December 31st, 1937.



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"HOWDENSHERE GAZETTE," MARKET PLACE.

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HOWDEN RURAL DISTRICT.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Howden
Rural District Council.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I submit my Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 1937.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

- 1.—Area (in acres)—69,963.
- 2.—Estimate of the average population of the area during 1937—11,300.
- 3.—Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1937 according to the rate books—3,310.
- 4.—Rateable Value—£34,248.
- 5.—Sum represented by a penny rate—£133.

The chief Industry throughout the district is Agriculture ; other employment being provided by the Ouse Chemical Works, the Creosote Works, Brickyards, Railways and Market Gardening.

The Area has shared in the general improvement throughout the Country, and there has been a further decrease in unemployment.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.

A part time Medical Officer of Health, who acts as Medical Superintendent of the Isolation Hospital.

A full time Sanitary Inspector and Building Surveyor with certificates A.R.San.I. and M.S.I.A.

A State Registered Nurse Matron and two Fever trained Nurses at the Isolation Hospital.

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total.	M.	F.
Live Births—Legitimate	153 ..	76 ..	77
Illegitimate	18 ..	8 ..	10
Still Births—Legitimate	4 ..	0 ..	4
Illegitimate	0 ..	0 ..	0
Birth-Rate for the Howden Rural Area per 1,000 population—15·13.			
Birth-Rate for England and Wales per 1,000 population—14·9.			
Still-Birth Rate for the Howden Rural Area per 1,000 population—·35.			

DEATHS.

	M.	F.	Total.
All deaths during 1937 ..	78 ..	76 ..	154
Death-Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population—13·6.			
Death-Rate per 1,000 for England and Wales—12·4.			
Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis—Nil.			
Deaths from other Puerperal Causes—Nil.			
Death-Rate from Puerperal Sepsis per 1,000 total Births—Nil.			
Death-Rate from all Puerperal Causes per 1,000 total Births—Nil.			
Maternal Mortality in England and Wales per 1,000 births—Puerperal Sepsis—·94 per 1,000 Births.			
Other—2·17. Total 3·11 per 1,000 Births.			

Number of Deaths of Children under 1 year of age—7.

Death-rate of infants under one Year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births—40.0.

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births—39.2.

Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births—55.5.

Death-rate of **E**ngland and Wales for Infants—58.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)—14.

Deaths from Measles (all ages)—Nil.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)—Nil.

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)—Nil.

During the Year there were 7 deaths from Tuberculosis.

TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS AND
CONTAGIOUS DISEASES, BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT,
FROM 1922—1937.

Year.	Small-pox.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Para-Typhoid & Typhoid	Erysipelas.	Pneumonia.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Puerperal Fever.	Pyrexia.	Acute Poliomyelitis.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Cerebro Spinal Fever.	Removed to Hospital.	Died in Hospital.
1922	...	23	17	4	4	6	...	1	...	...	...	...	39	...
1923	...	28	9	...	3	10	...	1	...	...	...	...	32	1
1924	...	10	Nil.	1	1	17	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...
1925	...	4	8	...	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	2
1926	5	30	4	...	4	33	...	...	...	...	...	...	39	...
1927	...	93	3	...	1	32	...	1	1	1	...	...	27	...
1928	...	24	2	3	2	6	...	...	1	1	...	...	27	...
1929	...	26	3	3	10	6	1	1	1	...	1	...	99	1
1930	...	56	4	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	52	...
1931	...	22	19	...	5	9	...	...	3	...	...	...	38	...
1932	...	21	5	1	4	3	1	...	2	2	...	...	24	...
1933	...	16	7	...	4	10	...	2	1	2	1	1	24	2
1934	...	85	24	...	5	5	1	...	1	...	...	...	109	3
1935	...	29	9	...	5	9	...	...	2	...	...	...	32	2
1936	...	28	7	...	1	13	...	...	...	1	...	...	33	...
1937	...	51	7	1	4	15	...	...	1	...	...	...	58	...

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES 1937.

Disease.	Total Cases.	Deaths.	Age Incidence.					
			Under 1 year.	1 to 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 25.	Over 25.
Diphtheria.	7	—	—	1	1	2	2	1
Scarlet Fever.	51	—	—	15	15	15	5	1
Pneumonia.	15	3	—	2	—	2	3	8
Erysipelas.	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Puerperal Pyrexia.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Typhoid & Paratyphoid Fever	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS.
NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1937.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1—5								
5—15			1					
15—25	3	1	1					
25—35	1	2	1			1	1	
35—45		1						
45—65	3	2			2			
over65		1	1			1	1	

TABLE OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEARS 1925—1937.

Year.	Estimated Population	Births.		Deaths belonging to the District.			
		No.	Rate per 1000. population	Under 1 year.		At all ages.	
				No.	Rate per 1000 Births regist. red.	No.	Rate.
1925	13040	261	20.0	17	65	137	10.5
1926	12920	235	18.1	26	110	137	10.6
1927	12980	254	18.7	18	70	160	12.3
1928	13080	233	18.1	10	42	152	11.6
1929	12930	238	18.4	12	54	161	12.4
1930	12930	210	16.1	16	76	136	10.5
1931	12300	216	17.5	10	46	175	14.2
1932	12350	220	17.8	9	40	139	11.2
1933	12330	206	16.7	11	53	142	11.5
1934	12280	191	15.5	12	62	151	12.2
1935	11500	178	15.4	13	73	155	13.5
1936	11631	160	14.3	7	42	150	12.8
1937	11300	171	15.1	7	40	154	13

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.—All examinations of Clinical Material are carried out at the Laboratory of the Hull Royal Infirmary, and are available to all practitioners in the Rural Area at the combined expense of the Rural District Council and the County Council.

During the past year the following tests were made :—

Diphtheria—Primary swabs 53.

Positive .. 5.

Negative .. 48.

Tuberculsis—Primary Examinations 17.

Positive 3.

Negative 14.

Other Primary Examinations 5.

NURSING IN THE HOME.—During the Year 1936, Midwives Act came into operation, and Midwives were appointed to attend cases in definite districts, so that a Maternity Nurse is available for any case within the Howden Rural Area. This is a great improvement, of which full advantage should be taken. A Child Welfare Centre has been organised at Howden and will open in January, 1938.

MATERNITY HOME.—The provision of a Maternity Home in this part of the East Riding is very necessary, and in order that such a Home should give a maximum of service, it would be distinctly advantageous if it were not built in the extreme corner of the Riding.

HOSPITALS.—In Howden Town a Public Assistance Institution for the sick poor, and an Isolation Hospital with 20 beds for infectious diseases. Shipton Hospital is available for Small-Pox cases.

TUBERCULOSIS.—The County Sanatorium at Raywell and a Tuberculosis Clinic at Selby.

VOLUNTARY HOSPITALS.—Goole, Selby, York, Hull and Leeds.

There is no ambulance available for the conveyance of patients to any hospital, except the Goole Bartholomew Hospital Ambulance, which is only available for patients admitted to that Institution.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There has been no serious outbreak of infectious Disease during 1937.

During the year there were 51 cases of Scarlet Fever and 7 cases of Diphtheria in the District.

There was one case of Para-Typhoid Fever and no Small Pox.

There were no deaths from Scarlet Fever or Diphtheria.

TUBERCULOSIS—

Pulmonary—There were 14 new cases of this Disease reported during the year, and there were 4 deaths.

Non-Pulmonary.—Four new cases were notified during the year, and two proved fatal.

PUERPERAL FEVER.—There were no cases of Puerperal Fever, and one case of Puerperal Pyrexia notified during the year.

SCHOOLS.

All Schools are under the County Council with the exception of one small private school in Howden. Reports are sent by the Head Teacher to the Medical Officer of Health of absentees from school suffering from an infective sickness.

WATER.

The extension of the Howden Water supply to Eastrington, Barmby and Asselby has now been completed, and is working satisfactorily.

The supply of water by the Pocklington R.D.C. to the parishes of Holme, Foggathorpe, Ellerton, Bubwith and Spaldington, and a scheme for the supply of water from Newbald to North Cave, Newport, Broomfleet, Gilberdyke, etc., is being proceeded with. When this latter scheme is completed, the whole of the rural area will have an adequate water supply.

When the Newbald scheme for the supply of water to North Cave, Broomfleet, Newport and Gilberdyke, etc., is completed the whole rural area will be covered by water schemes. It is to be hoped that landlords will give their tenants the benefit of this supply of water and so avoid any local recurrence of those unfortunate times of shortage which we all remember so well.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.—The general low level of the district makes the problem of drainage one of peculiar difficulty, the gradients everywhere being very low.

HOWDEN TOWN.—The greater part of the town is drained by pipes into a sluggish beck, the Old Derwent, which runs into the Ouse. For about half a mile of its length the sewer is culverted in bricks and passes under the houses. The fall of the Old Derwent is very little, 1-800 or in some places 1-1,100. Sewage stagnates on its sides and at the bottom and at times the beck becomes particularly offensive. The open parts were cleaned out by hand during the year. The only means of flushing the Old Derwent is by taking in a tide and holding it up until low water, when it is discharged. When this is done silt mixed with sewage is backed up and deposited in the further end to the drain and floods are occasioned. Another part of the town drains into a long open cesspool known as Carter's Drain, which lies at the back of a number of Houses, the foundations being constantly bathed in the liquid sewage which it contains. The old pipes in the greater part of the town are in a very dilapidated condition, causing the sewage to permeate the soil surrounding them.

KILPIN PIKE has a sewer system into the River Ouse. Brighton, part into ditches and part into the River Derwent. Holme-on-Spalding-Moor by pipes into open drains. Newport into the canal, disused brick ponds and ditches. All other parts are drained by pipes into open ditches.

DISPOSAL AND REMOVAL OF EXCREMENT AND REFUSE.

There is a great number of water closets flushed by rain water or water forced up by pumps. These discharge into cesspools which are emptied when necessary, or directly into water courses. Under the present conditions of drainage and sewage disposal these closets cannot be recommended.

Conversions from privy-midden to the pail system were carried out as follows:—Howden 3, Kilpin 9, Scalby 1, Skelton 3, and Holme 3.

A scheme for scavenging the Parish of Kilpin was approved by the Council and operated as from August 1st.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.—Four licenced, 12 registered.—These are privately owned and nearly in every case attached to the business. The figures given in the table below are approximate.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle, ex- cluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number Killed (if known) ..	736	20	12	1388	2374
Number inspected	640	—	—	480	730
All diseases except Tuberculosis.					
Whole carcases condemned ..	nil.	nil.	nil.	nil.	nil.
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	16	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis					
Tuberculosis only.					
Whole carcases condemned ..	1	nil.	nil.	nil.	nil.
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	nil.	nil.	nil.	nil.	4
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis					

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.—3 in Howden Town.—These visited during the year.—The sanitary arrangements are in a satisfactory condition.

WORKSHOPS.—All small and attached to the business premises. Only a small amount of labour is afforded by them.

MILK.—The milk produced in the area is collected and taken to the larger towns. It is distributed in the larger townships from door to door. There are eight Grade A producers.

COWSHEDS.—These are receiving attention and improvements have been carried out in the sanitary arrangements—regarding cleanliness, light and air.

HOUSING.—During the year sixteen houses were erected by the Council as follows :—Kilpin 4, Holme 4, Gilberdyke 4, Foggathorpe 2, Ellerton 2. Other houses erected by private enterprise, Gilberdyke 1, Newport 1, North Cave 5, Kilpin 1, Howden 6, Eastrington 1 Wood Bungalow.

Four houses were re-conditioned under the Housing (Rural Workers) Act.

Five Clearance Orders under the Housing Act of 1936 were made by the Council and confirmed by the Minister of Health, subject to certain modifications, viz.—the exclusion of one house from Clearance Order No. 1, two houses from Clearance Order No. 3, and one house from Clearance Order No. 4. The Council to take appropriate action in respect of these modifications.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

F. WIGGLESWORTH,

Medical Officer of Health.

I.—INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR :—

- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) —
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose —
- (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 87
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose —
- (3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 2
- (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 105

II.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... 94

III.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR :—

- (a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :
 - (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs —
 - (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—
 - (a) By owners —
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners —
- (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :
 - (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied —
 - (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—
 - (a) By owners —
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners —
- (c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :
 - (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 7
 - (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 8
- (d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :
 - (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made... .. —
 - (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit —

IV. HOUSING ACT, 1936.—PART IV.—OVERCROWDING :

- (a).—(i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year 33
- (ii) Number of families dwelling therein 33
- (iii) Number of persons dwelling therein 210
- (b).—Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during year Nil
- (c).—(i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 3
- (ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases 19
- (d)—Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding Nil
- (e)—Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report.

THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK COMPLETED DURING THE YEAR 1937.

Number of visits paid	...	...	...	...	...	...	2137
Number of visits in connection with Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	137
Number of Statutory Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Number of Preliminary Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	...	63

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE UNDER THE HOUSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

Number of houses inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	327
„ houses in which defects were remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	94
„ houses voluntarily closed by owners	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ houses demolished by owners	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ houses erected	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
„ houses in course of erection	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Instance where one house has been converted into 2 dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Instances where overcrowding conditions have been remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

Number of pail closets erected (additional accommodation)...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ privies replaced by water closets	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ privies converted to the pail system	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
„ defective sanitary pails renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
„ new drains constructed	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
„ drains relaid	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ yard drain improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
„ blocked drains released	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Approximate length of new drains laid	...	...	...	...	...	930 yards	

SCHOOLS.

Number of visits to school premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
„ schools disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ schools where privies have been converted to the pail system	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
„ schools where drainage has been improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

WATER SUPPLY.

Number of samples taken for analysis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ samples found to be unfit for use	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
„ houses provided with cisterns or tanks	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
„ wells repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
„ pumps repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
„ new wells sunk	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
„ wells closed	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

INSPECTION OF FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES.

Number of visits to food shops	...	...	...	...	...	56
„ visits to slaughter-houses	...	...	...	...	...	497
„ visits to cowsheds and dairies	...	...	...	...	...	232
Meat condemned	...	...	...	...	...	1,160 lbs.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Number of houses disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	65
„ houses cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ ashpits abolished	...	...	...	...	...	19
„ Foul ditches cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	6
„ sanitary dust-bins provided	...	...	...	...	...	3
„ dust-bins replaced	...	...	...	...	...	12
„ offensive accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	...	5
„ nuisances caused by the improper keeping of animals abated	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ visits to workshops	...	...	...	...	...	14
„ visits to common lodging-houses	...	...	...	...	...	7
„ slaughter-houses cleansed after notice	...	...	...	...	...	—
„ slaughter-houses where floors and drainage improved	...	...	...	...	...	—
„ loads of house and privy refuse removed (per Howden Scavenging Contractor)	...	...	...	...	...	1013
„ loads of house and privy refuse removed (per Newport Scavenging Contractor)	...	...	...	...	...	243
„ loads of house and privy refuse removed (per Kilpin Scavenging Contractor)	...	...	...	...	...	105
„ nuisances found	...	...	...	...	...	207
„ nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	...	196

COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.

Number of registered premises	...	...	...	...	...	436
„ Cows (approximately)	...	...	...	...	...	2031
„ cowsheds where floors, drainage and lighting have been improved	...	...	...	...	...	10
„ cowsheds linewashed by request (approximately)	...	...	...	...	...	35
„ new cowsheds erected	...	...	...	...	...	—

KENNETH MONTGOMERY,

A.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A.,

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.

ST. JOHN STREET,

HOWDEN.

